

VZCZCXRO4627
OO RUEHLH RUEHPW
DE RUEHIL #3820 3470905
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 120905Z DEC 08
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0641
INFO RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL 9564
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 9263
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 4189
RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI 0772
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE 6503
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR 5362
RHMFISS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 003820

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/10/2018

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PK](#)

SUBJECT: THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S DECEMBER 11 MEETING WITH
QURESHI

Classified By: Anne W. Patterson for reasons 1.4 (b), (d).

¶1. (C) Summary. Deputy Secretary John Negroponte met with Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi to discuss the terrorist attacks in Mumbai and relations with India, progress being made on border cooperation with Afghanistan and upcoming multilateral and bilateral meetings. End summary.

MOVING FORWARD AFTER MUMBAI ATTACK

¶3. (C) Qureshi expressed concern that events in Mumbai had pushed other items off the agenda such as the progress made in economic and security talks with India. He said the GOP made two concrete offers to India) to conduct an investigation of the events in Mumbai and to send a high level delegation to India to assist any investigation and keep lines of communications open. The Deputy Secretary said he would relay this offer to India.

¶4. (C) Qureshi noted that while he and other government officials had no doubt about Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) involvement in Mumbai, he asked the Deputy Secretary to provide evidence of the involvement that would stand up in court) both in judicial proceedings and in the court of public opinion. The Deputy Secretary asked what additional evidence was needed, as the GOP knows more about this group than anyone else. The FM noted while the GOP had proscribed the LeT, it needed more evidence to strengthen its case against Jamaat-ud-Dawa, LeT,s proxy group, which is widely known for its charity works in Pakistan. The Deputy Secretary stressed the need for the GOP to make the public case against terrorism. Qureshi agreed that better public diplomacy was needed, such as encouraging the ulema (religious leadership) to reject the message of terrorism as un-Islamic.

¶5. (C) The FM also requested that Deputy Secretary Negroponte urge India to stop accusing the ISI of supporting LeT. He pointed out that Inter-Service Intelligence,s (ISI) support of militants in a proxy war against India is part of history. The current military is working closely with the civilian leadership to defeat militancy. Accusing the ISI only sows more distrust. The FM noted that the GOP had proposed sending the Director General of Counterintelligence, General Rashid in the high level delegation to India, in place of the Director General of the ISI General Pasha, to focus the investigation on the terrorists and not the role of ISI.

GOP AND AFGHANISTAN

¶6. (C) Secretary Negroponte urged the FM to continue the tripartite dialogue with Afghanistan and NATO/ISAF, noting that an expected increase of NATO/ISAF troops should help if there is an improvement in cross-border cooperation. The FM agreed that relations with Afghanistan were moving in the right direction.

PROPOSAL TO FINALIZE BILATERAL TREATY

¶7. (C) The Deputy Secretary and FM discussed details of upcoming meetings including the World Bank and Friends of Pakistan. The Deputy Secretary proposed that the USG and GOP complete work on a bilateral investment treaty. Qureshi agreed to follow up next week to discuss what is required to finalize such an agreement.

¶8. (U) Deputy Secretary's Office has cleared this cable.
PATTERSON